

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

2. Claims 10, 12, and 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Drouillard.

Drouillard shows in combination: a spray nozzle receiving element 12 of a motor vehicle; and an adjustably mountable spray nozzle 26 having a body which has a bearing axis, the body pivotally mounted to the receiving element for pivoting about the bearing axis, the body further including a bearing axis adjusting element 20; and an adjusting drive manipulator 18. The nozzle body is mountable to the receiving element via a snap-fit engagement as recited in claim 12 (see Fig. 1).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 11, 13, 14, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Drouillard.

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The method of connecting various parts together would have been a matter of design choice. In this case, the device would still operate properly if the pump 18/20 is connected to the nozzle body. Regarding claims 14 and 19, it would also have been matters of design choice to have configured the adjusting drive manipulator as a threaded spindle to attachment to other parts of the device and to have included a plurality of snap-lock webs as recited.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claim 15 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The patents to Fukushima and Bock et al. are pertinent to Applicant's invention.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Davis Hwu whose telephone number is (571)272-4904. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Friday 8:00-4:30. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Len Tran can be reached on (571)272-1184. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is

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available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Davis Hwu/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3752